

# **PAKISTAN'S TRIUMPH AT 61<sup>ST</sup> INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING (IEC) AND THE 6<sup>TH</sup> REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE (ICID) WAS HELD AT YOGYAKARTA – INDONESIA FROM 10<sup>TH</sup>-16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2010.**

1. The International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) was established on 24 June, 1950 as a scientific, technical and voluntary non-profit, non-governmental international organization with its headquarters in New Delhi, India. The Commission is dedicated to enhancing the worldwide supply of food and fibre for all people by improving water and land management and the productivity of irrigated and drained lands through appropriate management of water, environment and application of irrigation, drainage and flood management techniques. The Commission provides a useful forum for open exchange of scientific, social, economic and technical information on Irrigation, Drainage and Flood Control among member countries. Starting with 11 founding member countries in 1950, 110 countries have so far joined ICID, to pool their efforts.

The International Executive Council (IEC) manages the affairs of ICID and approves report, recommendations and work plans for the work bodies. It meets each year at different locations of member countries.

Pakistan is a member of ICID since 1953, and is represented by the Pakistan National Committee on Irrigation & Drainage (PANCID) to coordinate and manage all the activities of ICID in Pakistan. PANCID has twenty six members (26) with representation from various government organizations, research institutes, universities and consultants. Seventeen (17) members of PANCID are representing / proposed to represent nineteen Work Bodies of ICID, providing useful contribution through submission of research papers and participation in ICID meetings, symposiums and workshops.

2. The 61<sup>st</sup> International Executive Council Meeting (IEC) and the 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference of International Committee on Irrigation & Drainage (ICID) was held in Yogyakarta – Indonesia from 10-16 October 2010. The meeting was crucial as Pakistan National Committee of ICID (PANCID) had fielded Engr. Husnain Ahmad, President Pakistan Engineering Congress for the coveted position of Vice-President – Asia Zone 2010-2013. The nomination of Engr. Husnain Ahmad was most appropriate choice as he had earlier led a 6-member Pakistan delegation at 60<sup>th</sup> IEC & 5<sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Conference held at New Delhi, India in December, 2009 and the delegation had forcefully articulated Pakistan's achievements in the field of Irrigation & Drainage. Also due to the relentless efforts & in-puts of Mr. Husnain, he was taken as Member Permanent Committee of Technical Affairs (PCTA).
3. It is a matter of great Pride and singular honour for the country as well as for Pakistan Engineering Congress and the Engineers fraternity that Engr. Husnain Ahmad has been elected as Vice-President –ICID (Asia & Oceania) 2010-2013. In his capacity of Vice-President, he will also be a member of the "Permanent Committee on Strategy Planning and Organizational Affairs (PCSPOA).



Delegation of Pakistan, from Left: Engr. Husnain Ahmad, President Pakistan Engineering Congress, Engr. S.M.A. Zaidi, Vice-President, Pakistan Engineering Congress

Engr. Husnain Ahmad made a comprehensive presentation about devastation of life, property, Houses, Crops, Livestock, Infrastructure, and above all displacement of almost 20-million persons. The presentation spelled out, in detail, the steps required to be undertaken by the various sectors both public & private to give a timely warning of impending rains / floods, management and controlling the floods, useful uses of flood-water, disaster management etc. The paper was highly acclaimed by the delegates at the conference.



From Left: Prof. Dr. Chandra A. Madramootoo, president, (ICID) presenting shield to Engr. Husnain Ahmad, President, Pakistan Engineering Congress.



From Left Dr. Laszlo G. Hatde, Vice-President ICID (Netherlands), Dr. Ragab Ragab Vice-President, ICID (U.K), Engr. Husnain Ahmad Vice-President ICID (Pakistan), Mr. Chaiwat Prechawit Vice-President ICID (Thailand), Mr. Shinsuke Ota, Vice-President, ICID, (Japan), Dr. Willem F. Vlotman Vice-President (Australia), Prof. Dr. Hafied A. Gany Vice-President, (Indonesia).

Another achievement is the acceptance of the proposal that an International Conference on Floods in Pakistan – 2010 may be held in Pakistan under active participation by ICID.

Also Engr. Syed Mansoob Ali Zaidi Vice-President Pakistan Engineering Congress & Former Secretary Irrigation & Power Department (Punjab) was elected as Chairman ICID Task Force on “**Sedimentation**”.